[31st October 1935

Representation of the Jain community in the public services.

* 343 *Q.*—Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state whether there are any proposals before the Government to give adequate representation to the Jain community in the public services of this Province?

A.—No.

Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt:—"May I know whether the Hon. the Revenue Member is aware that in South Kanara there is a large body of very influential Jain people who are neither Brahmans nor non-Brahmans according to strict rules of classification, and if so, whether he would consider if any direction should be given for these people being given adequate representation?"

The Hon. Mr. C. A. Souter:—"I am not prepared, Sir, to give separate representation to any particular community like this."

Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt:—"I did not mean separate representation; I said that direction might be given for special consideration being shown to these people in making appointments."

The Hon. Mr. C. A. Souter:—"I am very averse from giving directions to the Public Services Commission."

Commerce

Measures for the total prohibition of the import of foreign paddy and rice into the Presidency.

* 344 *Q.*—Rai Sahib C. Kolanda Reddi: Will the Hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it has been brought to his notice that there are heavy imports of paddy, rice and broken rice into this Presidency;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that the low import duty on broken rice has had no deterrent effect;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that heavy increase in imports of paddy and rice is only recent and that it has affected the paddy price in local markets a great deal; and

(*d*) what steps the Local Government have taken or propose to take to impress upon the Government of India the necessity and the urgency of entire prohibition of all imports of foreign paddy and rice (broken or whole)?

A.—(*a*) There were heavy imports during 1934–35 but the imports in 1935–36 have decreased considerably.

(*b*) The duty on broken rice appears to have arrested the increase of import.

(*c*) The answer to the first part of the question is in the affirmative, but the imports during the current year do not appear to have been so far large enough to affect appreciably the prices of local products.

(*d*) The Government are watching the situation and will take steps when necessary.